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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: SAIGON 703

SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN PLATFORM OF TRAN VAN HUONG

1. VO LONG TRIEU ON JULY 9 GAVE EMBOFF COPY OF DRAFT CAMPAIGN PLATFORM OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TRAN VAN HUONG. TRIEU REQUESTED EMBOFF'S COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AND CAUTIONED EMBOFF

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THAT IT IS NOT IN FINAL FORM. THE DRAFT IS MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE. IT MAY BE DESIGNED IN PART TO MEET WHAT TRIEU AND HUONG BELIEVE TO BE AMERICAN DESIRES, BUT IT ALSO HAS THE EARMARKS OF THE THOUGHT OF HUONG AND HIS PRINCIPAL SUPPORTERS, AND SHOULD MAKE AN EFFECTIVE APPEAL TO THE ELECTORATE.

2. THE PLATFORM IS HEADED "BUILDING PEACE ON FREEDOM, PROSPERITY, AND JUSTICE". THE MAIN THEME IS THAT WHILE THE WAR IS THE RESULT OF COMMUNIST AGGRESSION, PEACE CAN ONLY BE WON IF CORRUPTION AND INJUSTICE IS ELIMINATED FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY OF SOUTH VIET NAM. THE PLATFORM SAYS PLAINLY THAT THE COMMUNIST EFFORT TO TAKE SOUTH VIETNAM BY FORCE OF ARMS REQUIRES CONTINUED MILITARY EFFORT, AND THAT THE SEARCH FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION DOES NOT MEAN "PEACE AT ANY PRICE". THE AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH AND NORTH VIET NAM MUST BE THE CENTRAL PARTICIPANTS IN ANY FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS, AND "ANY PEACEFUL SOLUTION MUST RESPECT THE INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND ESSENTIAL RIGHTS OF THE SOUTH, AND MUST INCLUDE EFFECTIVE GUARANTEES BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY."

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3. THE PLATFORM ALSO STRESSES THE NEED FOR STRONG, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, THE PLATFORM DEALS MOSTLY IN GENERALITIES, CALLING FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION, IMPROVEMENTS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AND AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IN THE SECTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE, THE PLATFORM RECOMMENDS THAT TEN PER CENT OF THE NATIONAL BUDGET BE SET ASIDE FOR EDUCATION AND PROPOSES "RE-EXAMINATION" OF LAND REFORM IN ORDER TO "FAITHFULLY APPLY THE PRINCIPLE OF LAND FOR THE TILLER." IT ALSO CALLS FOR INCREASED ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF YOUTH. THE PLATFORM CONCLUDES WITH A REFERENCE TO THE "FINAL SOLUTION" FOR WHICH ALL VIETNAMESE LONG, NAMELY REUNIFICATION OF NORTH AND SOUTH VIET NAM. THERE IS NO SUGGESTION AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED.

4. THE PLATFORM DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY SPECIFIC PLANS FOR ELIMINATING CORRUPTION AND MAKES ONLY BRIEF MENTION OF LAND REFORM. WE INTEND TO ENCOURAGE FULLER CONSIDERATION OF BOTH TIMES IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL CANDIDATES.

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5. FULL TRANSLATION OF HUONG PLATFORM WILL BE FORWARDED BY POUCH WHEN IT IS PUT INTO FINAL FORM BY HUONG AND HIS CO-WORKERS. BUNKER

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